

ment of any license, excise, privilege, premium, occupation or other fee or tax to any state, territory or political subdivision thereof (including the District of Columbia), unless prior to such payment, the statute, ordinance, or other law imposing such fee or tax shall have been expressly held invalid by the state court having final appellate jurisdiction in the premises, or by the Supreme Court of the United States.

(b) No action or Court proceeding, and no suit at law or in equity, shall be brought against any officer, director or trustee of any insurer, including any domestic mutual insurance companies, attorneys-in-fact for reciprocal exchanges or inter-insurers, or Lloyds Associations, for the purpose of enforcing any liability based upon any payment by the said insurer, or upon a determination not to contest payment of any license, excise, privilege, premium, occupation, or other fee or tax to any state, territory or political subdivision thereof (including the District of Columbia), occurring prior to the date of the passage of this Act, unless such action be instituted within six months after the date on which this Act becomes effective. Nothing in this Act is to be construed as giving rise to any such cause of action which, prior to the passage of this Act, did not exist.

(c) Nothing contained herein shall be construed as directly or indirectly limiting, minimizing or interpreting the rights and powers of insurers and their officers, directors and trustees, heretofore existing.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency law and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed upon by yea and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly of Maryland, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 5, 1945.

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## CHAPTER 564.

(House Bill 374)

AN ACT to add a new section to Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Insurance", sub-title "Insurance Department", said new section to be known as Section 11, and to follow immediately after Section 10 of said Article, giving any person, co-partnership, association or corporation a right of appeal from any adverse decision